

Claim Amendments

1. (original) A sealed face mask, comprising:
a covering for the nostrils and mouth;

wherein the covering includes a periphery completely surrounding the nostrils and mouth, wherein the periphery is structured to extend from a first position on the bridge of the nose above the nostrils to the right side of the nose, from said right side of the nose to a position on the front of the face beyond the right side of the mouth, from said position beyond the right side of the mouth to a position on the front of the face below the lower lip and on the front of the chin, from said position below the lower lip to a position on the front of the face beyond the left side of the mouth, from said position beyond the left side of the mouth to the left side of the nose, from said left side of the nose back to said first position on the bridge of the nose such that the nostrils and mouth are completely surrounded;

wherein the covering comprises a portion projecting outwardly of the mouth, with the portion projecting outwardly of the mouth being within the periphery and being convex relative to an exterior of the portion;

wherein the covering is structured to permit air into and out of the covering;

wherein the covering is structured to minimize a flow of substances into and out of the covering; and

a seal on the periphery, wherein the seal includes an adhesive that sticks to skin to minimize an amount of substances that access the nostrils and mouth via a route between the periphery and the face and to maximize the amount of substances that are trapped by the covering.

(18956.DOC) (Amendment and Remarks--page 6 of 18)

2. (original) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the adhesive is skin unfriendly such that, when the seal is removed from the face, the horny layer of the skin beneath the adhesive is removed with the adhesive, wherein the adhesive that is skin unfriendly extends entirely about the periphery.

3. (withdrawn) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the seal includes a first face having a first adhesive for confronting the periphery and wherein the seal includes a second face having a second adhesive for confronting the skin of the face, wherein the periphery comprises a first material, wherein the first adhesive includes a first strength for engaging said first material, wherein the second adhesive includes a second strength for engaging the skin of the face, and wherein said second strength relative to the skin of the face is greater than the first strength relative to the first material of the periphery such that, when the face mask is removed from the face, the seal remains on the skin of the face.

4. (withdrawn) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the seal includes a first face having a first adhesive for confronting the periphery and wherein the seal includes a second face having a second adhesive for confronting the skin of the face, wherein the periphery comprises a first material, wherein the first adhesive includes a first strength for engaging said first material, wherein the second adhesive includes a second strength for engaging the skin of the face, and wherein said first strength relative to the first material of the periphery is greater than the second strength relative to the skin of the face such that,

(18956.DOC) (Amendment and Remarks--page 7 of 18)

when the face mask is removed from the face, the face mask and seal are removed from the face.

5. (original) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the adhesive is skin friendly such that, when the seal is removed from the face, the horny layer of the skin beneath the adhesive remains on the face.

6. (withdrawn) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the seal comprises:

a) a strip having a first face with a first adhesive and a second face with a second adhesive, wherein the first face confronts said periphery of the covering and wherein the first adhesive engages said periphery, and wherein the second face confronts the skin of the face and wherein the second adhesive engages the skin of the face; and

b) wherein the strip is elastomeric to accommodate movement of the skin of the face.

7. (withdrawn) The sealed face mask of claim 6, wherein the periphery of the covering is elastomeric to accommodate movement of the strip.

8. (withdrawn) The sealed face mask of claim 6, wherein the second adhesive is elastomeric to further accommodate movement of the skin of the face.

9. (withdrawn) The sealed face mask of claim 7, wherein the first adhesive is elastomeric to relate the strip to the periphery of the covering.

10. (original) The sealed face mask of claim 1, and further comprising a neutralizing agent engaged to the

{18956.DOC} (Amendment and Remarks--page 8 of 18)

covering where the covering is structured to permit air into the covering to maximize the chances that substances passing through the covering are rendered less harmful by the neutralizing agent.

11. (original) The sealed face mask of claim 1, and further comprising activated charcoal engaged to the covering where the covering is structured to permit air into and out of the covering to maximize the chances that substances passing through the covering are rendered less harmful by the activated charcoal.

12. (original) A sealed face mask, comprising:
a covering for the nostrils and mouth;
wherein the covering includes a periphery completely surrounding the nostrils and mouth, wherein the periphery is structured to extend from a first position on the bridge of the nose above the nostrils to the right side of the nose, from said right side of the nose to a position on the front of the face beyond the right side of the mouth, from said position beyond the right side of the mouth to a position on the front of the face below the lower lip and on the front of the chin, from said position below the lower lip to a position on the front of the face beyond the left side of the mouth, from said position beyond the left side of the mouth to the left side of the nose, from said left side of the nose back to said first position on the bridge of the nose such that the nostrils and mouth are completely surrounded;

wherein the covering comprises a portion projecting beyond the mouth, with the portion projecting beyond the mouth being within the periphery and being convex relative to an exterior of the portion;

(18956.DOC) (Amendment and Remarks--page 9 of 18)

wherein the covering is structured to permit air into and out of the covering;

wherein the covering is structured to minimize a flow of substances into and out of the covering;

a neutralizing agent engaged to the covering where the covering is structured to permit air into the covering to maximize the chances that substances passing through the covering are rendered less harmful by the neutralizing agent; and

a seal on the periphery, wherein the seal includes an adhesive that sticks to skin to minimize an amount of substances that access the nostrils and mouth via a route between the periphery and the face and to maximize the amount of substances that are trapped by the covering, wherein the adhesive is skin unfriendly such that when the seal is peeled off the face the horny layer of the skin is removed with the adhesive, wherein the adhesive that is skin unfriendly extends entirely about the periphery.

13. (withdrawn) A sealed face mask, comprising:

a covering for the nostrils and mouth;

wherein the covering includes a periphery completely surrounding the nostrils and mouth, wherein the periphery is structured to extend from a first position on the bridge of the nose above the nostrils to the right side of the nose, from said right side of the nose to a position on the front of the face beyond the right side of the mouth, from said position beyond the right side of the mouth to a position on the front of the face below the lower lip and on the front of the chin, from said position below the lower lip to a position on the front of the face beyond the left side of the mouth, from said position beyond the left side of the mouth to the left side of the nose, from said left side of

(18956.DOC) (Amendment and Remarks--page 10 of 18)

the nose back to said first position on the bridge of the nose such that the nostrils and mouth are completely surrounded;

wherein the covering comprises a portion projecting beyond the mouth, with the portion projecting beyond the mouth being within the periphery and being convex relative to an exterior of the portion;

wherein the covering is structured to permit air into and out of the covering;

wherein the covering is structured to minimize a flow of substances into and out of the covering;

a neutralizing agent engaged to the covering where the covering is structured to permit air into the covering to maximize the chances that substances passing through the covering are rendered less harmful by the neutralizing agent;

a seal for engagement to the periphery, wherein the seal includes an adhesive that sticks to skin to minimize an amount of substances that access the nostrils and mouth via a route between the periphery and the face and to maximize the amount of substances that are trapped by the covering; and

wherein the seal prior to engagement between the periphery and the face comprises a base having two faces, wherein said adhesive that sticks to the skin is engaged to one of said two faces, wherein the other of the two faces includes said adhesive or another adhesive, wherein the seal further comprises prior to engagement between the periphery and the face respective release strips over the adhesive on the two faces.

14. (withdrawn) The sealed face mask according to claim 13, wherein the seal prior to engagement between the

periphery and the face comprises at least two separate seal elongate portions, wherein each of said at least two separate seal elongate portions comprises the base, faces, adhesive, and release strips.

15. (withdrawn) The sealed face mask according to claim 14, wherein at least one of said at least two separate seal elongate portions is angular.

16. (withdrawn) The sealed face mask according to claim 14, wherein at least one of said at least two separate seal elongate portions is linear.

17. (withdrawn) The sealed face mask according to claim 14, wherein at least one of said at least two separate seal elongate portions is angular, and wherein at least one of said at least two separate seal elongate portions is linear.

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)

22. (canceled)

23. (canceled)

24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)

{18956.DOC} (Amendment and Remarks--page 12 of 18)

26. (canceled)

27. (canceled)

28. (withdrawn) A sealed face mask, comprising:

a base strip engaging a clear plastic shield about a periphery of the clear plastic shield;

a unit having a nose and mouth piece and further having an air exhaust piece, wherein the nose and mouth piece is internal of the clear plastic shield and wherein the exhaust piece is external of the clear plastic shield, wherein the unit is engaged to the base strip;

an air intake connection engaged to said unit and having an end for air intake;

a resilient piece engaged to a portion of the base strip and further engaged to an underside of the unit, wherein the resilient piece includes an opening surrounding the eyes, nose and mouth;

a seal engagable between the face and the resilient piece at said opening of the resilient piece and runnable continuously around the eyes, nose and mouth as a whole, wherein the seal includes an adhesive that sticks to skin to maintain a positive air pressure inside of the face mask, minimize usage of air and maximize an amount of air available to a user of the face mask.

29. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the adhesive is a spreadable adhesive spread on the periphery.

30. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the adhesive is a pressure sensitive adhesive.

31. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the adhesive is a spreadable adhesive spread on the periphery, and wherein the adhesive is a pressure sensitive adhesive.

32. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the adhesive includes a block copolymer.

33. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the adhesive includes a styrene-olefin-styrene block copolymer.

34. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the adhesive includes a styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer.

35. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 1, wherein the adhesive includes a thermoplastic elastomer.

36. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 12, wherein the adhesive is a spreadable adhesive spread on the periphery.

37. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 12, wherein the adhesive is a pressure sensitive adhesive.

38. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 12, wherein the adhesive is a spreadable adhesive spread on the periphery, and wherein the adhesive is a pressure sensitive adhesive.

39. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 12, wherein the adhesive includes a block copolymer.

40. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 12, wherein the adhesive includes a styrene-olefin-styrene block copolymer.

(18956.DOC) (Amendment and Remarks--page 14 of 18)

41. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 12, wherein the adhesive includes a styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer.

42. (new) The sealed face mask of claim 12, wherein the adhesive includes a thermoplastic elastomer.